

First Response - Claim Amendments

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) Apparatus, comprising forming means for joining first sheet material and second sheet material together, first clamp means downstream of the forming means for indexing the first sheet material and the second sheet material after being joined together by said forming means, second clamp means upstream of the forming means for indexing said first sheet material toward said first clamp means substantially synchronously with said first clamp means, characterized in that, third clamp means are provided upstream of said forming means for indexing said second sheet material toward said first clamp means substantially synchronously with said first clamp means.

a 9. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said first clamp means and/or said second clamp means and/or said third clamp means is coupled to non-mechanical control means.

10. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said non-mechanical control means comprises electronic control means.

11. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~anyone of claims~~ claim 8, 9 or 10, wherein said first clamp means and/or said second clamp means and/or said third clamp means is/are coupled to a respective electric motor (~~46, 58, 100~~) by position control means (~~42, 44, 60, 62, 80, 72, 86, 88, 98, 96, 91, 90, 94, 95~~).

12. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said position control means (~~42, 44, 60, 62, 80, 72, 86, 88, 98, 96, 91, 90, 94, 95~~) comprises screw means (~~44, 60, 98~~) engaged into respective lead nut means (~~42, 62, 96~~) to which support means (~~36, 72, 76, 88, 90, 94, 95~~) of respective grasping means (~~34, 56~~) is coupled.

13. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 12~~ claim 8 and further comprising fixed grasping means (57) disposed upstream of said further clamp means (52; 54).

14. (Currently amended). Use of an apparatus according to claim 8 to manufacture a container ~~Container~~, comprising first and second wall means connected to each other along a peripheral seal (130) and defining an internal cavity (132), characterized in that regions of said wall means extend over pre-determined positions of said first and second wall means.

15. (Currently amended) The use according to claim 14 ~~Container according to claim 15~~, wherein said first and second wall means (106, 112) are opposed to one another.

16. (Currently amended) The use ~~Container~~ according to claim 14, or 15, wherein at least one of said regions (104; 110) is positioned on a corrugation (108; 114) of said wall means.

17. (Currently amended) The use ~~Container~~ according to claim 16, wherein said corrugation (108; 114) comprises an embossment.

18. (Currently amended) Method ~~of forming~~ comprising indexing first and second sheets of material through forming means simultaneously ~~of said sheet material~~ characterized by controlling indexing of the first sheet portions of said sheet material to the forming means independently of indexing of the second portions of sheet of material to the forming means.

19. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 18, and further comprising forming container walls in the forming means from said first sheet portions and said second sheet portions.

20. (New) Apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said first clamp means and/or said second clamp means and/or said third clamp means is coupled to non-mechanical control means.

21. (New) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said non-mechanical control means comprises electronic control means.

22. (New) Apparatus according to claim 13, 20 or 21, wherein said first clamp means and/or said second clamp means and/or said third clamp means is/are coupled to a respective electric motor by position control means.

23. (New) Apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said position control means comprises screw means engaged into respective lead nut means to which support means of respective grasping means is coupled.
